

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 26363 220909Z

71

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-07 IO-13 /076 W

----- 003173

R 220505Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3661

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU

S E C R E T BANGKOK 26363

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

FOL MSG SNT ACTION BANGKOK FROM CHIANG MAI SEP 21 IS REPEATED
TO YOU:

QUOTE

S E C R E T CHIANG MAI 310

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, PFOR, PINS, TH, XC

SUBJECT: ASEAN AND REGIONAL SECURITY

1. SUMMARY; DENIALS TO THE CONTRARY, AT LEAST ONE THAI
OFFICIAL SEES ASEAN AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO SEATO, AT LEAST
ON AN UNOFFICIAL BASIS.

2. DURING A CONVERSATION AT A MITRAPHAB DEDICATION IN
SUKHOTHAI PROVINCE GENERAL SAIYUD KERDPHON COMMENTED
ON HIS RECENT TRIP TO INDONESIA AND HIS DISCUSSIONS
WITH THAT COUNTRY'S MILITARY ON THE PROBLEMS OF COUNTER-
INSURGENCY IN THAILAND. SAIYUD SAID THE COUNTRIES OF
SOUTHEAST ASIA HAD TO DEAL WITH THE REALITIES OF A CHANG-
ING WORLD. IN TERMS OF MUTUAL SECURITY, ONE SUCH REALITY
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BANGKO 26363 220909Z

WAS THE DEMISE OF SEATO. HOWEVER, SAIYUD CONTINUED, AS

EVIDENCE OF THE FACT THERE WAS ALWAYS AN ANSWER TO EVERY PROBLEM, ASEAN WAS TAKING THE PLACE OF THE DISAPPEARING SEATO.

3. SURPRISED AT THE MENTION OF ASEAN IN A MILITARY CONTEXT, I ASKED SAIYUD IF THE LEADERS OF THE SOUTH EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES REALLY EXPECTED THAT ASEAN WOULD EVOLVE INTO A MILITARY ALLIANCE OF SOME SORT. EMBARRASSED AT WHAT MAY HAVE BEEN A DIPLOMATIC FAUX PAUS ON HIS PART, SAIYUD HASTENED TO ASSURE ME THAT THERE WERE NO PLANS TO CREATE A FORMAL MILITARY ALLIANCE OUT OF SEATO. HE WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THAT CONTACTS WORKED OUT THROUGH THE ASEAN APPARATUS PROVIDED A ROUTE FOR UNOFFICIAL DISCUSSIONS FOR WORKING OUT MUTUAL SECURITY PROBLEMS. HE EMPHASIZED THE NECESSITY, BECAUSE OF THE NEED FOR GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE NORTH VIETNAMESE, LAO AND CAMBODIANS, OF NEVER ALLOWING SUCH CONTACTS TO MOVE TO A FORMAL STAGE OR END IN FORMAL DIPLOMATIC AGREEMENTS.

4. SAIYUD SUGGESTED THAT THE VIETNAMESE WERE WELL AWARE OF WHAT WAS HAPPENING AND THAT THIS WAS THE REASON FOR THEIR RECENT OPPOSITION TO ASEAN, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS AN "EFFORT TO DELAY SUCH DEVELOPMENTS." SAIYUD THEN REPEATED THE WORD "DELAY", SUGGESTING THAT HIS OWN BELIEF IS THAT SUCH EFFORTS, WHILE POSSIBLY DELAYING UNOFFICIAL MUTUAL SECURITY COOPERATION BETWEEN THE NON-COMMUNIST ASEAN COUNTRIES, WILL NOT SUCCEED IN HALTING SUCH DEVELOPMENTS.

TANNER
UNQUOTE
BURKE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REGIONAL DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS, MILITARY PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 SEP 1976
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BANGKO26363
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760358-0312
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760934/aaaabcww.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 JUL 2004 by ullricre>; APPROVED <25 OCT 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ASEAN AND REGIONAL SECURITY
TAGS: PORG, PFOR, PINS, MPOL, TH, XC, ASEAN, SEATO, (SIAYUD KERDPHON)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006